## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1        1.     A system comprising:

2        a virtual device interface, wherein said virtual device interface is configured to

3                 allow a primary storage unit to be accessed as a secondary storage unit.

1        2.     The system of claim 1, wherein

2        said virtual device interface is further configured to allow a utility to access

3                 said primary storage unit as said secondary storage unit.

1        3.     The system of claim 1, wherein

2        said virtual device interface is a virtual tape interface

1        4.     The system of claim 3, further comprising

2        said primary storage unit, wherein

3                 said virtual tape interface is coupled to control said primary storage

4                       unit.

1        5.     The system of claim 4, wherein

2        said virtual tape interface is configured to create a virtual loader on said

3                 primary storage unit.

1        6.     The system of claim 4, further comprising:

2        a secondary storage unit, wherein said virtual tape interface is coupled to

3                 control said secondary storage unit.

1        7.     The system of claim 4, wherein said virtual tape interface comprises:

2        a virtual loader library, communicatively coupled to said primary storage unit;

3                 and

4        a virtual loader utilities module, communicatively coupled to said virtual

5                 loader library.

1        8.     The system of claim 7, wherein said virtual tape interface further

2        comprises:

3                 a main module, communicatively coupled to said virtual loader library; and

4   a configuration file, accessible by said main module, wherein said

5     configuration file comprises information that allows said virtual loader

6     library to create a virtual loader on said primary storage unit.


1   9.  The system of claim 7, wherein

2   said virtual loader library is configured to allow a utility to access said primary

3     storage unit as said secondary storage unit.


1   10.  A method comprising:

2   converting a first command to a second command, wherein

3     said first command is configured to control a first type of storage unit,

4     said second command is configured to control a second type of storage

5      unit,

6     said first type of storage unit is a secondary storage unit, and

7     said second type of storage unit is a primary storage unit.


1   11.  The method of claim 10, wherein

2   said secondary storage unit is a tape backup unit, and

3   said primary storage unit is a hard drive.


1   12.  The method of claim 11, further comprising:

2   creating a virtual loader, wherein

3     said converting and said creating are performed by a virtual tape

4      interface.


1   13.  The method of claim 12, wherein

2   said creating creates a directory on said hard drive.


1   14.  The method of claim 13, further comprising:

2   storing information on a virtual tape in said virtual loader, wherein

3     said storing stores information in a file in said directory, and

4     said file corresponds to said virtual tape.

1    15.    The method of claim 12, further comprising:

2    accessing a secondary storage unit communicatively coupled to said virtual

3         tape interface, using said virtual tape interface.


1    16.    A computer system comprising:

2    a processor;

3    computer readable medium coupled to said processor; and

4    computer code, encoded in said computer readable medium, configured to

5         cause said processor to:

6         convert a first command to a second command, wherein

7              said first command is configured to control a first type of

8                   storage unit,

9              said second command is configured to control a second type of

10                  storage unit,

11             said first type of storage unit is a secondary storage unit, and

12             said second type of storage unit is a primary storage unit.


1    17.    The computer system of claim 16, wherein

2    said secondary storage unit is a tape backup unit, and

3    said primary storage unit is a hard drive.


1    18.    The computer system of claim 17, further comprising:

2    a virtual tape interface, wherein

3         said computer code is further configured to cause said processor to

4              create a virtual loader, and

5         said virtual tape interface comprises said computer code configured to

6              cause said processor to convert and said computer code

7              configured to cause said processor to create.


1    19.    The computer system of claim 18, wherein said computer code

2    configured to cause said processor to create is further configured to cause said

3    processor to:

4         create a directory on said hard drive.

1        20.     The computer system of claim 19, wherein said computer code is

2  further configured to cause said processor to:

3          store information on a virtual tape in said virtual loader, wherein

4               said computer code configured to cause said processor to store said

5                    information is further configured to cause said processor to

6                    store said information in a file in said directory, and

7               said file corresponds to said virtual tape.

1        21.     The computer system of claim 18, wherein said computer code is

2  further configured to cause said processor to:

3          access a secondary storage unit communicatively coupled to said virtual tape

4               interface, using said virtual tape interface.

1        22.     A computer program product comprising:

2        a first set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to

3               convert a first command to a second command, wherein

4               said first command is configured to control a first type of storage unit,

5               said second command is configured to control a second type of storage

6                    unit,

7               said first type of storage unit is a secondary storage unit, and

8               said second type of storage unit is a primary storage unit; and

9        computer readable media, wherein said computer program product is encoded

10           in said computer readable media.

1        23.     The computer program product of claim 22, wherein

2  said secondary storage unit is a tape backup unit, and

3  said primary storage unit is a hard drive.

1        24.     The computer program product of claim 23, further comprising:

2        a second set of instructions, executable on said computer system, configured

3               to create a virtual loader, wherein

4               a virtual tape interface comprises said first and said second set of

5                    instructions.

1       25.     The computer program product of claim 24, wherein said second set of

2    instructions comprises:

3           a first subset of instructions, executable on said computer system, configured

4                  to create a directory on said hard drive.

1       26.     The computer program product of claim 25, further comprising:

2           a third set of instructions, executable on said computer system, configured to

3                  store information on a virtual tape in said virtual loader, wherein

4                  said third set of instructions comprises a first subset of instructions,

5                        executable on said computer system, configured to cause said

6                        processor to store said information in a file in said directory,

7                        and

8                  said file corresponds to said virtual tape.

1       27.     The computer program product of claim 26, further comprising:

2           a third set of instructions, executable on said computer system, configured to

3                  access a secondary storage unit communicatively coupled to said

4                  virtual tape interface, using said virtual tape interface.

1       28.     An apparatus comprising:

2           means for converting a first command to a second command, wherein

3                  said first command is configured to control a first type of storage unit,

4                  said second command is configured to control a second type of storage

5                      unit,

6                  said first type of storage unit is a secondary storage unit, and

7                  said second type of storage unit is a primary storage unit.

1       29.     The apparatus of claim 28, wherein

2           said secondary storage unit is a tape backup unit, and

3           said primary storage unit is a hard drive.

1       30.     The apparatus of claim 29, further comprising:

2           means for creating a virtual loader, wherein

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3          a virtual tape interface comprises said means for converting and said

4                means for creating.

1      31.    The apparatus of claim 30, wherein said means for creating comprises:

2      means for creating a directory on said hard drive.

1      32.    The apparatus of claim 31, further comprising:

2      means for storing information on a virtual tape in said virtual loader, wherein

3          said means for storing stores information in a file in said directory, and

4          said file corresponds to said virtual tape.

1      33.    The apparatus of claim 30, further comprising:

2      means for accessing a secondary storage unit communicatively coupled to said

3          virtual tape interface, using said virtual tape interface.